



Planning and Project Implementation Update



January 2005

ABOUT THIS UPDATE

The purpose of the Chippewa Quarterly is to provide a summary of environmental analyses on the Chippewa National Forest. Issued quarterly, this is intended to complement other public involvement efforts initiated by the Forest Supervisor or District Rangers. Legal notices will continue to be published in the following local newspapers: Bemidji's *The Pioneer* for Forest Supervisor decisions; and Blackduck's *American*, *Cass Lake Times*, Deer River's *Western Itasca Review*, and Walker's *The Pilot-Independent* for District Ranger decisions.

Projects are classified into one of three categories:

Environmental Analyses in Progress

This category includes projects in which public input is being or is about to be solicited. It also includes those projects that are currently under study or analysis. Environmental analyses include Environmental Impact Statements (EIS), Environmental Assessments (EA), and Categorical Exclusions (CE).

Completed Decision Documents

These projects have culminated in the preparation of completed environmental analyses and decision documents since the last issue. These decision documents include Records of Decision (ROD), Decision Notices (DN), and Decision Memos (DM). Findings of No Significant Impacts will be included in this category, also.

Proposals withdrawn or deferred

Some projects are initiated and published in this Quarterly but may be withdrawn or deferred for various reasons. These projects may or may not be picked up for completion at a later date. Project summaries include reasons for discontinuing the project.

HOW YOU CAN BECOME INVOLVED

Read through the list of proposed projects. If you want to provide site-specific comments on a project, get more information, or be placed on the project mailing list, write or call the contact person listed for that project. We value your site-specific involvement. A generic statement of interest in all projects is not specific enough. It is only through site-specific input that we can be responsive to and incorporate your concerns into project development. Project specific comments are required during the 30-day Notice and Comment period to obtain standing to appeal a project.

DEFINITION OF TERMS

Appeal Period - The 45-day period after publication of a decision in which an appeal can be filed.

Categorical Exclusion (CE) - A category of actions that do not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the human environment. Neither an environmental assessment nor an environmental impact statement is required.

Comment Period - The time allowed for interested persons to provide comments to a Responsible Official on a proposed action.

Decision Memo (DM) - A concise written record of the responsible official's decision to implement an action that has been categorically excluded from documentation.

Decision Notice (DN) - A concise written record of the responsible official's decision based on an environmental assessment and a finding of no significant impact.

Environmental Assessment (EA) - A document that presents issues and concerns important to a project, alternate means of accomplishing a project, and environmental effects of each of those alternatives.

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) - This document is required for proposed actions that may have significant effects on the human environment. The contents are similar to an environmental assessment, and it includes some additional sections.

Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) - A document prepared by a federal agency presenting the reasons why an action, not otherwise excluded, will not have a significant effect on the human environment and for which an environmental impact statement will not be prepared.

NEPA - National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. The procedural guide for the decision making process for site-specific projects.

Proposed Action - A proposal made by the Forest Service to authorize, recommend, or implement an action on National Forest System lands to meet a specific purpose and need which is subject to public notice comment provisions.

Scoping - Includes internal and public involvement to determine the range of issues to be addressed. Scoping aids in the development of alternatives for a proposed action.

Significance - As used in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), requires consideration of both context and intensity.

Anticipated "Walk-in" Business

Requests from the public occasionally necessitate analyses be completed with a short turn-around. This may mean that decisions are made without prior announcement in this Update. As these projects come up for consideration however, they will continue to be announced by legal notices in newspapers. Examples of walk-in requests include special use roads and utility rights-of-way. Scoping efforts for these requests will be conducted as applicable.

Forest Policy on Distributing Documents

Draft and Final Environmental Assessments and Decision Notices/FONSI's and Draft and Final Environmental Impact Statements and Records of Decision are routinely mailed to individuals who submit written comments to any projects. We do not routinely distribute biological assessments or biological evaluations with the previously listed documents. If you wish to receive biological evaluations or biological assessments for NEPA projects, please contact the district and/or Supervisor's Office NEPA Coordinators.

Privacy on Comments Received

Comments received in response to solicitation as part of the NEPA process, including names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record on a proposed action and will be available for public inspection. Comments submitted anonymously will be accepted and considered; however, those who submit anonymous comments will not have standing to appeal the subsequent decision under 36 CFR Parts 215 or 217. Additionally, pursuant to 7 CFR 1.27(d), any person may request the agency to withhold a submission from the public record by showing how the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) permits such confidentiality. Persons requesting such confidentiality should be aware that, under the FOIA, confidentiality may be granted in only very limited circumstances, such as to protect trade secrets. The Forest Service will inform the requester of the agency's decision regarding the request for confidentiality, and where the request is denied, the agency will return the submission and notify the requester that the comments may be resubmitted with or without name and address within stated number of days.

Forest Plan Revision

January 2005

The record of decision for the revised Forest Plan was signed by Regional Forester Randy Moore on July 30, 2004. The Appeal period began with the publication of that decision on August 27, 2004 and ended on November 26, 2004. Implementation of projects covered under the Forest Plan began 30 days after the publication of the decision.

The formal appeal period for the Forest Plan has closed. Nineteen appeals were received from 10 individuals and 8 groups. The major appeal issues include the prohibition of cross country travel by snowmobiles and ATVs, expansion of the semi-primitive non-motorized management areas, establishing an ASQ level that was either too high or too low, violation of trust responsibilities, flawed economic analysis, and inadequate public notification.

The Forest will work with the Superior NF to put together transmittal letters and packages that address all of the appeal issues. The Chief will then make a decision to support or remand (send back) the decision, to remand parts of the decision or to direct the Forests to work with the appellants to resolve issues. The Chief has 160 days from receipt of the last appeal to make a decision on the appeals. The Sec. of Agriculture has 15 days after the appeal decision to decide if he is going to review the appeal. Once the Sec. of Agriculture gives notice that he wants to review the decision, she has 30 days to make a decision on the review. The Secretary of Ag can “undo” the Chief’s decision on the appeal decision. The total appeal process is up to six months.

Requests to stay the approval of land and resource management plans shall not be granted. However, requests to stay implementation of a project or activity included in such a plan could be considered.

After all administrative appeal processes have been exhausted, appellants could then choose to litigate the Forest Plan decision.

For more information:

Specific questions concerning revision may be directed to:
Brenda Halter-Glenn, Forest Planner, Chippewa National Forest (218) 335-8651
Kay Getting, Chippewa Public Affairs, (218) 335-867

Documents and other Forest Plan Revision information is available at:

www.fs.fed.us/r9/chippewa.

The **Monitoring and Evaluation Report** for fiscal year 2003 is available upon request. If you would like a copy, contact Sharon Klinkhammer at 218-335-8660 or sklinkhammer@fs.fed.us.



Schedule of Proposed Action (SOPA)

01/01/2005 to 03/31/2005

Chippewa National Forest

This report contains the best available information at the time the data was published. Questions may be directed to the Project Contact.

| Project Name | Project Purpose | Planning Status | Decision | Expected Implementation | Project Contact |
|--|--|---|---------------|-------------------------|---|
| Chippewa National Forest, Forestwide (excluding Projects occurring in more than one Forest) | | | | | R9 - Eastern Region |
| Reservoir Operating Plan Evaluation (ROPE) Study EIS | - Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Watershed management - Recreation management | In Progress: NOI in FR 12/12/2003 Estimated Scoping start 06/2004 | Exptd:12/2006 | 06/2007 | Nancy Salminen 218-335-8666 nsalminen@fs.fed.us |
| | Description: Operation of Federal dams and coordination with operators of non-Federal dams in the headwaters of the Mississippi River area between Bemidji and St. Paul | | | | |
| | Location: UNIT - Chippewa National Forest Units. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Beltrami, Cass, Itasca. Upper Mississippi River between Bemidji and St. Paul. | | | | |
| Chippewa National Forest, Occurring in more than one District (excluding Forestwide) | | | | | R9 - Eastern Region |
| Bridge Replacements EA | - Road management | In Progress: Scoping start 04/15/2003 | Exptd:07/2005 | 06/2006 | William Yourd 218-335-8672 wyourd@fs.fed.us |
| | Description: Replacement of 7 bridges across the forest | | | | |
| | Location: UNIT - Blackduck Ranger District, Walker Ranger District, Deer River Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Cass. LEGAL - Mitt Lake Ck- T150N R27W Sec 21; Wagner Ck - T149N R28W Sec 12; Crane Ck- T147N R29W Sec 1; Swamp Ck-T148N R30W Sec 32; Laura Lake Ck -T141N, R27W, Sec. 25; Two Mile Ck- T147N R26W Sec 30; Long Lake. Blackduck- Mitt Lake, Wagner , Crane , Swamp Creeks; Walker --Laura Lake Creek ; Deer River - Two Mile Ck, Long Lake Ck (T143N R25W Sec 3), Batson Lake Inlet (T60N R26W Sec 26). | | | | |
| Chippewa National Forest Blackduck Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District) | | | | | R9 - Eastern Region |
| Ardenhurst Township Road Easements DM | - Special use management | In Progress: Scoping start 11/01/2003 | Exptd:12/2004 | 01/2005 | Leo Johnson (218) 835-4291 ljohnson@fs.fed.us |
| | Description: Grant easements to the township for existing township roads that cross NFS lands in Ardenhurst Township. About 1 mile in 5 segments in sections 19, 30, and 32. | | | | |
| | Location: UNIT - Blackduck Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Itasca. LEGAL - T150N R28W. Ardenhurst Township around Island Lake. | | | | |

| Project Name | Project Purpose | Planning Status | Decision | Expected Implementation | Project Contact |
|--|---|--|--------------------|-------------------------|---|
| C-16 St. 14 Thinning DM | - Fuels management - Forest products | Completed | Actual: 10/27/2004 | 01/2005 | Lisa Arbucci-Schmid 218-835-3117 larbuccischmid@fs.fed.us |
| | Description: Thinning up to 70 acres of dense red pine under the Healthy Forest Initiative. | | | | |
| | Location: UNIT - Blackduck Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Cass. LEGAL - T145N R29W Sec. 5. West of Lake Winnebigoshish and south of the Big Fish Road. | | | | |
| Dunbar Lake Access EA | - Recreation management | On Hold | N/A | N/A | Jeff Allison 218 835-3115 jmallison@fs.fed.us |
| | Description: Road reconstruction and construction of small parking lot. Coop. project with DNR. | | | | |
| | Location: UNIT - Blackduck Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Itasca. LEGAL - T148N R28W Sec. 9. East side of Dunbar Lake off of County Road 32. | | | | |
| Norway Fuels Treatment DM | - Fuels management | Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start : 06/2005 | Exptd:07/2005 | 08/2005 | Tate Fischer 218-835-3136 tdfischer@fs.fed.us |
| | Description: Prescribed burning and mechanical treatments to reduce fuel loading near Norway Beach Recreation Area and scattered residences (WUI). | | | | |
| | Location: UNIT - Blackduck Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Beltrami, Cass. LEGAL - T145N R30&31W and T146N R30&31W. East of Cass Lake by Scenic Highway and Norway Beach Recreation Area. | | | | |
| Round Island Resource Management EA | - Road management - Fuels management - Forest products | In Progress: Scoping start 11/10/2004 Estimated 215 comment 03/2005 | Exptd:04/2005 | 06/2005 | Leo Johnson (218) 835-4291 ljohnson@fs.fed.us |
| | Description: Timber harvesting and reforestation, riparian area management, stream crossing rehabilitation, transportation system management, wildlife habitat maintenance, and fuel loading treatments. | | | | |
| | Location: UNIT - Blackduck Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Itasca. LEGAL - T148N R27&28W, T149N R27&28W, and T150N R27&28W. Blackduck Ranger District between Round Lake and Island Lake. | | | | |

| Project Name | Project Purpose | Planning Status | Decision | Expected Implementation | Project Contact |
|--|--|---|---------------|-------------------------|---|
| Scenic Highway Reconstruction (County Roads 10 and 39) EA | - Special use management - Road management | In Progress: Scoping start 01/13/2004 | Exptd:08/2005 | 06/2006 | Leo Johnson (218) 835-4291 ljohnson@fs.fed.us |
| | Description: Reconstruct the road with wider lanes, wider shoulders, gentler ditch slopes, wider clearings, and gentler curves. Federal Highway Administration is lead agency: FS is cooperating. | | | | |
| | Location: UNIT - Blackduck Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Beltrami, Cass. LEGAL - T149N R30W, T148N R30W, T147N R30W, T146N R30W. Between Blackduck and Highway 2 east of Cass Lake. | | | | |
| Shallow Pond Boat Access EA | - Recreation management | On Hold | N/A | N/A | Nancy Salminen 218-335-8666 nsalminen@fs.fed.us |
| | Description: Construct a small, native-surfaced boat landing and parking lot on Shallow Pond. On hold waiting for Heritage Resources Site Evaluation. Possible DNR partnership. | | | | |
| | Location: UNIT - Blackduck Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Itasca. LEGAL - T149N R28W Section 5. North or south side of Shallow Pond along Highway 46. | | | | |
| Stream Bank Stabilization and Aesthetics (Popple River) DM | - Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Watershed management | Cancelled | N/A | N/A | Jeff Allison 218 835-3115 jmallison@fs.fed.us |
| | Description: Planting conifers and shrubs along streambanks to stabilize the soil, restore stream morphology, and minimize beaver impacts. Project has been incorporated into Round Island Resource Mgmt EA | | | | |
| | Location: UNIT - Blackduck Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Itasca. LEGAL - T149N R27W. Along the Popple River north of Nature's Lake. | | | | |
| Streambank Stabilization on Bowstring River and associated recreational fishing improvement DM | - Recreation management | Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start : 02/2005 | Exptd:04/2005 | 05/2005 | Nancy Salminen 218-335-8666 nsalminen@fs.fed.us |
| | Description: Remove rock cribs, planks, and reinforcing rods from riverbed, scattering the rocks for fish habitat and safer boat/canoe navigation in the river. Construct a small fishing platform or stairway to make access/fishing better. | | | | |
| | Location: UNIT - Blackduck Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Itasca. LEGAL - T149N, R27W, Section 26. Shogren Recreation Area on the Bowstring River. | | | | |
| Sugarbush Township Road Easements DM | - Special use management | Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start : 01/2005 | Exptd:06/2005 | 06/2005 | Nancy Salminen 218-335-8666 nsalminen@fs.fed.us |
| | Description: Grant easements for existing township roads | | | | |
| | Location: UNIT - Blackduck Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Beltrami. LEGAL - T147N R31W. Various locations in Sugarbush Township (around Big Lake). | | | | |

| Project Name | Project Purpose | Planning Status | Decision | Expected Implementation | Project Contact |
|--------------------------------------|--|---|---------------|-------------------------|---|
| Ten Lake Road Easement DM | - Special use management - Road management | Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start : 09/2004 | Exptd:01/2005 | 06/2005 | Nancy Salminen 218-335-8666 nsalminen@fs.fed.us |
| | Description: Realign the existing road to remove two unsafe corners. Make this two dead end roads rather than a loop road due to landowner request. | | | | |
| | Location: UNIT - Blackduck Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Beltrami. LEGAL - T146N R31W, Section 21. North of Cass Lake off of County Highway 33 - Ten Lake Township Road TL9 (formerly Buckley Road). | | | | |

| Chippewa National Forest Deer River Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District) | | | | | R9 - Eastern Region |
|---|--|--|--------------------|---------|--|
| Benham Road Access DM | - Special use management | In Progress: Scoping start 11/01/2003 | Exptd:03/2005 | 04/2005 | Michelle Heiker 218-246-2123 mheiker@fs.fed.us |
| | Description: Request for Special Use Road Permit to access private land. | | | | |
| | Location: UNIT - Deer River Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Itasca. LEGAL - T148N R26W Sec 23 SWNW. T148N R26W Sec 23 SWNW. | | | | |
| Eagle Nest Road EA | - Road management | In Progress: Scoping start 03/26/2004 | Exptd:03/2005 | 04/2005 | Michael Martin 218-335-8633 mikemartin@fs.fed.us |
| | Description: Project includes realignments, reconstructing bridges, and adding bituminous surface to Eagle Nest Road. Includes rehabilitation of East and West Seelye Campgrounds adjacent to road. | | | | |
| | Location: UNIT - Deer River Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Itasca. LEGAL - T147N R27W Secs 14, 15, 21, 22, & 28. Eagle Nest Road extending from Hwy 46 to South Deer Lake Campground. | | | | |
| Hanuska Road Access DM | - Special use management | Completed | Actual: 09/30/2004 | 09/2004 | Michelle Heiker 218-246-2123 mheiker@fs.fed.us |
| | Description: Request for Special Use Permit to access private land. | | | | |
| | Location: UNIT - Deer River Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Itasca. LEGAL - T141N R25W Sec 27 SESE. FR 2082A. | | | | |

| Project Name | Project Purpose | Planning Status | Decision | Expected Implementation | Project Contact |
|--|--|---|--------------------|-------------------------|---|
| Johnson Garage - Little Cut Foot DM | - Recreation management - Facility management | Completed | Actual: 08/31/2004 | 08/2004 | Michelle Heiker 218-246-2123 mheiker@fs.fed.us |
| | Description: Request for construction of Recreation Residence | | | | |
| | Location: UNIT - Deer River Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Itasca. LEGAL - T147N R26W Sec 36. Little Cut Foot Sioux Lake. | | | | |
| Marcell and McDonald Lake Gravel Pits Expansion EA | - Minerals and Geology | In Progress: Scoping start 06/24/2004 | Exptd:06/2005 | 07/2005 | Michael Jimenez (218) 246-2123 mjimenez@fs.fed.us |
| | Description: Evaluate proposed expansion of Marcell and McDonald Lake Gravel Pits. | | | | |
| | Location: UNIT - Deer River Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Itasca. LEGAL - T59N R26W Sec 20 NWNE, T58N R27W Sec 35 NWNE. South of town of Marcell and south of the community of Soumi near McDonald Lake. | | | | |
| Mississippi River Vegetation Management Project EA | - Fuels management - Forest products | In Progress: Estimated Scoping start 06/30/2004 Estimated Scoping start 07/2004 | Exptd:02/2005 | 04/2005 | Michael Jimenez (218) 246-2123 mjimenez@fs.fed.us |
| | Description: Evaluates the options related to vegetative and fuels management in the northwestern portion of the Mississippi Watershed on the Marcell/Deer River Ranger District. | | | | |
| | Location: UNIT - Deer River Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Cass, Itasca. LEGAL - T144N R26W, T144N R27W, T145N R144W, & T145N R27W. Northwest portion of the Mississippi Watershed on the Marcell/Deer River Ranger District. | | | | |
| Private Road Access to Bowstring Lake Property - Rothstein DM | - Special use management | In Progress: Scoping start 02/02/2004 Estimated Scoping start 04/2004 | Exptd:03/2005 | 04/2005 | Gregg Alle (218) 832-3161 galle@fs.fed.us |
| | Description: Applicant has requested special use permit for a road crossing NF lands to access private land | | | | |
| | Location: UNIT - Deer River Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Itasca. LEGAL - T147N R26W Sec 2 SWSW and Sec 11NWNW. Bowstring Lake. | | | | |

| Project Name | Project Purpose | Planning Status | Decision | Expected Implementation | Project Contact |
|--|---|--|---------------|-------------------------|---|
| Re-issuance of Various Lands Special Use Permits DM | - Special use management | In Progress: Scoping start 02/01/2004 | Exptd:03/2005 | 04/2005 | Michelle Heiker 218-246-2123 mheiker@fs.fed.us |
| | Description: Evaluate the renewal of Special Use Permits near expiration. | | | | |
| | Location: UNIT - Deer River Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Cass, Itasca. Marcell/Deer River Ranger District. | | | | |
| Steward Land Exchange DM | - Land ownership management | In Progress: Scoping start 06/24/2004 | Exptd:04/2005 | 05/2005 | Michael Jimenez (218) 246-2123 mjimenez@fs.fed.us |
| | Description: Exchange of 40 acre parcel of NF land for a 40 acre tract of private land. | | | | |
| | Location: UNIT - Deer River Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Itasca. LEGAL - T148N R26W Sec 27 SWNW, T147N R26W Sec 26 NENE. Sand Lake Vicinity. | | | | |

| Chippewa National Forest Walker Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District) | | | | R9 - Eastern Region | |
|---|---|--|--------------------|----------------------------|---|
| Cass County Land Exchange DM | - Land ownership management | In Progress: Scoping start 07/05/2004 | Exptd:02/2005 | 04/2005 | Gregory Smith 218 335-8661 gdsmith@fs.fed.us |
| | Description: Cass County has initiated a land exchange proposal for 160 acres. | | | | |
| | Location: UNIT - Walker Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Cass. LEGAL - T141N, R26W, Sections 9, 10, 11 and 13. Southeast corner of the Walker Ranger District. | | | | |
| Conifer Thin EA | - Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Forest products | Completed | Actual: 11/03/2004 | 01/2005 | Sharon Klinkhammer (218)335-8660 sklinkhammer@fs.fed.us |
| | Description: Commercial thinning in conifer stands across Walker District. | | | | |
| | Location: UNIT - Walker Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Cass. Scattered across Walker district. | | | | |

| Project Name | Project Purpose | Planning Status | Decision | Expected Implementation | Project Contact |
|--|---|---|---------------|-------------------------|---|
| Forest Road 2862 DM | - Special use management | Cancelled | N/A | N/A | Christine Brunner 218-547-1044 cbrunner@fs.fed.us |
| | Description: Applicant has requested a special use permit for reconstruction and right-of-way for a portion of FR 2862 to access private land. | | | | |
| | Location: UNIT - Walker Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Cass. LEGAL - T141N, R28W, Section 12. Southeast of Leech Lake. | | | | |
| Forest Road 2862 Special Use Permit DM | - Special use management - Road management | In Progress: Scoping start 08/01/2004 | Exptd:03/2005 | 06/2005 | Christine Brunner 218-547-1044 cbrunner@fs.fed.us |
| | Description: Applicant has requested a temporary use permit for reconstruction and a special use permit to maintain a portion of FR 2862 in order to access private property. | | | | |
| | Location: UNIT - Walker Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Cass. LEGAL - T141N, R28W, Section 7. Marshall Lake. | | | | |
| Forest Road 3767A Special Use Permit DM | - Special use management | Cancelled | N/A | N/A | Christine Brunner 218-547-1044 cbrunner@fs.fed.us |
| | Description: Applicant has requested a special use permit for reconstruction and right-of-way on a portion of FR 2862 to access private land. | | | | |
| | Location: UNIT - Walker Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Cass. LEGAL - T141N, R31W, Section 27. Gadbolt Lake. | | | | |
| Forest Road 3767A Special Use Permit DM | - Special use management - Road management | Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start : 11/2004 | Exptd:03/2005 | 06/2005 | Christine Brunner 218-547-1044 cbrunner@fs.fed.us |
| | Description: Applicant has requested a temporary special use permit to reconstruct 1/2 mile of FR 3767A and a special use permit to construct 1000 feet of new road on NFS land. | | | | |
| | Location: UNIT - Walker Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Cass. LEGAL - T141N, R31W, Section 27. Gadbolt Lake. | | | | |
| Grave Lake Access DM | - Special use management | Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start : 04/2005 | Exptd:05/2005 | 06/2005 | Christine Brunner 218-547-1044 cbrunner@fs.fed.us |
| | Description: Construction, use and maintenance of a road to access private land. | | | | |
| | Location: UNIT - Walker Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Cass. LEGAL - T142N, R26W, Section 14. Graves Lake. | | | | |

| Project Name | Project Purpose | Planning Status | Decision | Expected Implementation | Project Contact |
|---|---|---|--------------------|-------------------------|---|
| Hwy 2 Turn and Bypass lanes DM | - Road management | Completed | Actual: 12/16/2004 | 05/2005 | Gregory Smith 218 335-8661 gdsmith@fs.fed.us |
| | Description: MN DOT is proposing to resurface Hwy 2 from Hwy371 to approximately 1.4 miles east of CSAH 10 in 2005. They propose to widen the road in certain areas to accommodate turn lands and bypass lanes. | | | | |
| | Location: UNIT - Walker Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Cass. T145N R30W Sec 15, 16, 18 and T145N R31W Dec 13, 14. | | | | |
| Itasca Mantrap Electric Cooperative DM | - Special use management | Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start : 02/2005 | Exptd:04/2005 | 06/2005 | Christine Brunner 218-547-1044 cbrunner@fs.fed.us |
| | Description: Applicant has applied for a special use permit to bury and maintain an existing overhead power line. | | | | |
| | Location: UNIT - Walker Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Cass. LEGAL - T141N, R31W, Sections 7, 8 and 18. Shingobee . | | | | |
| Jack Lake Access DM | - Special use management | Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start : 04/2005 | Exptd:05/2005 | 06/2005 | Christine Brunner 218-547-1044 cbrunner@fs.fed.us |
| | Description: Applicant has applied for special use permit for construction, use and maintenance of a road to access private land. | | | | |
| | Location: UNIT - Walker Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Cass. LEGAL - T141N, R30W, Section 2. Jack Lake. | | | | |
| Johnson Fiber Optic Telephone Lines DM | - Special use management | Completed | Actual: 09/20/2004 | 09/2004 | Christine Brunner 218-547-1044 cbrunner@fs.fed.us |
| | Description: Applicant has applied for a special use permit to install and maintain fiber optic telephone lines along roadways at four locations on the Walker District. | | | | |
| | Location: UNIT - Walker Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Cass. LEGAL - T141N, R26W, Sections 14, 22, 23, 27, and 34; T142N, R27W, Sections 21, 22, and 27; T143N, R25W, Sections 20, 29, 32 and 33; T142N, R25W, Section 4; T143N, R30W, Sections 11, 12, and 14.. Four separate locations on the Walker Ranger District.. | | | | |
| Metzger Rec Residence DM | - Special use management | Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start : 03/2005 | Exptd:04/2005 | 06/2005 | Christine Brunner 218-547-1044 cbrunner@fs.fed.us |
| | Description: Addition of a garage to a Rec residence | | | | |
| | Location: UNIT - Walker Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Cass. LEGAL - T142N, R31W, Section 14. Walker Bay Recreation Residences. | | | | |

| Project Name | Project Purpose | Planning Status | Decision | Expected Implementation | Project Contact |
|--|---|---|---------------|-------------------------|--|
| Sale of Surplus Facilities DM | - Facility management | Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start : 08/2004 | Exptd:02/2005 | 05/2005 | Catherine Thompson 218-335-8655 cjthompson@fs.fed.us |
| | Description: Sale of four surplus properties: former Cass Lake Ranger Station; former ranger house in Walker; storm pond in Walker; and west branch storage area in Walker | | | | |
| | Location: UNIT - Walker Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Cass. LEGAL - T145N R31W Sec 23; two facilities in T142 N R31W Sec 23; T142N R31W Sec 21. Cass Lake and Walker. | | | | |
| South Leech Lake Resource Management Project EA | - Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Road management - Recreation management - Fuels management - Forest products | In Progress: Scoping start 12/01/2004 | Exptd:05/2005 | 06/2005 | Christine Brunner 218-547-1044 cbrunner@fs.fed.us |
| | Description: Ecosystem burning, timber harvesting, and road decommissioning | | | | |
| | Location: UNIT - Walker Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Cass. Southwest portion of the Walker Ranger District. | | | | |
| Various Lands Special Use Permits DM | - Special use management | Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start : 06/2005 | Exptd:08/2005 | 12/2005 | Christine Brunner 218-547-1044 cbrunner@fs.fed.us |
| | Description: Re-issuance of expired special use permits | | | | |
| | Location: UNIT - Walker Ranger District. STATE - Minnesota. COUNTY - Cass. Various locations on the Walker Ranger District. | | | | |

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status (not all prohibited bases apply to all programs). Person with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

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This report contains the best available information at the time the data was published. Questions may be directed to the Project Contact.

The record of decision for the revised Forest Plan was signed by Regional Forester Randy Moore on July 30, 2004. The Appeal period began with the publication of that decision on August 27, 2004 and ended on November 26, 2004. Implementation of projects covered under the Forest Plan began 30 days after the publication of the decision.

The formal appeal period for the Forest Plan has closed. Nineteen appeals were received from 10 individuals and 8 groups. The major appeal issues include the prohibition of cross country travel by snowmobiles and ATVs, expansion of the semi-primitive non-motorized management areas, establishing an ASQ level that was either too high or too low, violation of trust responsibilities, flawed economic analysis, and inadequate public notification.

The Forest will work with the Superior NF to put together transmittal letters and packages that address all of the appeal issues. The Chief will then make a decision to support or remand (send back) the decision, to remand parts of the decision or to direct the Forests to work with the appellants to resolve issues. The Chief has 160 days from receipt of the last appeal to make a decision on the appeals. The Sec. of Agriculture has 15 days after the appeal decision to decide if he is going to review the appeal. Once the Sec. of Agriculture gives notice that he wants to review the decision, she has 30 days to make a decision on the review. The Secretary of Ag can "undo" the Chief's decision on the appeal decision. The total appeal process is up to six months.

Requests to stay the approval of land and resource management plans shall not be granted. However, requests to stay implementation of a project or activity included in such a plan could be considered.

After all administrative appeal processes have been exhausted, appellants could then choose to litigate the Forest Plan decision.